

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Cancelled)

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) A home server apparatus for receiving, from an information supply apparatus operable to supply section information indicating how contents are each divided into sections, a piece of section information that corresponds to content that is acquired by and recorded in a contents recording unit of the home server apparatus, the home server apparatus comprising:

a requesting unit operable to request the information supply apparatus to supply first section information corresponding to the recorded content by sending, to the information supply apparatus, (i) identification information for identifying the recorded content, and (ii) criterion information that indicates a level of performance of the home server apparatus in relation to generating section information;

a receiving unit operable to receive the first section information, from the information supply apparatus, when the first section information is supplied from the information supply apparatus as a result of the information supply apparatus judging that the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information sent by the requesting unit is lower than a level of performance in relation to generating section information stored in a storage unit of the information supply apparatus ~~the first section information cannot be generated at the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information;~~

a generating unit operable to generate second section information corresponding to the

recorded content, the second section information being generated when the information supply apparatus judges that the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information sent by the requesting unit is equal to or higher than the level of performance in relation to generating the section information stored in the storage unit, and when the first section information is not supplied from the information supply apparatus; and

a section information recording unit operable to record therein (i) the first section information corresponding to the recorded content, when the first section information is supplied from the information supply apparatus, and (ii) the second section information corresponding to the recorded content, when the first section information is not supplied from the information supply apparatus.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of Claim 2,

wherein each of the contents include original sections that are cohesive in substance, and

wherein start times of each section indicated by the first section information are closer to start times of the original sections than to start times of each section indicated by the second section information.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of Claim 3,

wherein the first section information is generated based on amounts of a plurality of types of characteristics detected through analysis of images and audio information contained in the recorded content, and

wherein the generating unit generates the second section information based on amounts

of fewer types of characteristics than the plurality of types of characteristics from which the generation of the first section information is based.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of Claim 4,

wherein the generating unit generates the second section information based on amounts of audio detected through analysis of audio information contained in the recorded content.

Claims 6-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of claim 2

wherein each piece of section information identifies each section of content by a start time, and

wherein the generating unit generates the second section information by determining the start time of each section of the recorded content through analysis of the recorded content.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of Claim 9 further comprising a time correcting unit operable to correct the start time of each section indicated by the first section information by:

receiving, from the information supply apparatus, (i) a portion of audio data of the recorded content identified by the identification information and (ii) a reproduction time for the portion of audio data, the reproduction time being measured by a same clock measuring start times indicated by the first section information;

calculating a difference between a reproduction time for the portion of audio data of the recorded content and the reproduction time received from the information supply apparatus; and
correcting the start times indicated by the first section information by the calculated difference.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of Claim 9 further comprising:

a selecting unit operable to select one section of the recorded content indicated by a piece of section information that has been recorded in the section information recording unit in correspondence with the recorded content; and

a reproducing unit operable to reproduce the recorded content from a start time of the selected section.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of Claim 11,

wherein the section information indicates, for each section of the recorded content, a characteristic image display time being a time at which an image, which is used to determine what each section of the recorded content concerns, is displayed,

wherein the home server apparatus further comprises a presentation unit operable to display, as a list, images that are to be displayed at characteristic image display times indicated by the section information, and

wherein the selecting unit selects a section of the recorded content that corresponds to an image that a user selects from the displayed list of images.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of claim 2,

wherein the requesting unit further sends selection criterion information, which is used by the information supply apparatus to select one piece of section information that corresponds to one content, to the information supply apparatus, and

wherein the receiving unit receives, from the information supply apparatus, a piece of section information selected based on the selection criterion information.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of Claim 13, wherein

the selection criterion information indicates a broadcasting area to which the home server apparatus belongs, and thereby corresponds to one of the plurality of pieces of section information that corresponds to the broadcasting area, where the plurality of pieces of section information respectively correspond to a plurality of broadcasting areas.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of claim 2,

wherein the requesting by the requesting unit is inhibited while the contents recording unit is recording a content, and the requesting is executed after the contents recording unit finishes recording the content,

wherein the generating unit generates third section information while the contents recording unit is recording the content, the third section information corresponding to sections of the content that have already been recorded by the contents recording unit, and

wherein the section information recording unit records therein the third section information corresponding to the content being recorded, if the contents recording unit is

currently recording the content, and records therein the first section information corresponding to the content if the first section information is supplied after the content is recorded.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of claim 2 further comprising a communication judging unit operable to judge whether a communication with the information supply apparatus is possible,

wherein, if the communication judging unit judges that a communication with the information supply apparatus is not possible, then (i) the requesting by the requesting unit is inhibited, (ii) the generating unit generates the second section information, and (iii) the section information recording unit records therein the second section information corresponding to the recorded content.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of claim 2 further comprising:

a request receiving unit operable to receive, from another home server apparatus, (i) identification information for identifying a predetermined content stored in the another home server apparatus, and (ii) criterion information corresponding to the another home server apparatus;

a judging unit operable to judge, based on the criterion information corresponding to the another home server apparatus, whether to supply the another home server apparatus with a piece of section information corresponding to the predetermined content; and

a supply unit operable to supply the another home server apparatus with the piece of section information corresponding to the predetermined content if (i) the judging unit judges to

supply the another home server apparatus with the piece of section information and (ii) the piece of section information corresponding to the predetermined content is stored in the section information recording unit,

wherein if (i) the judging unit judges to supply the another home server apparatus with the piece of section information and (ii) the piece of section information corresponding to the predetermined content is not stored in the section information recording unit, then the generating unit generates the piece of section information for the predetermined content, and the supply unit supplies the another home server apparatus with the piece of section information corresponding to the predetermined content.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented) The home server apparatus of Claim 17,

wherein the criterion information corresponding to the another home server apparatus indicates a level of performance of the another home server apparatus in relation to generating section information, and

wherein the judging unit judges not to supply the another home server apparatus with the piece of section information if the level of performance of the another home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information is equal to or higher than the level of performance of the home server apparatus, and judges to supply the another home server apparatus with the piece of section information if the level of performance of the another home server apparatus is lower than the level of performance of the home server apparatus.

Claims 19-22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) An integrated circuit for a home server apparatus including a storage unit and that receives, from an information supply apparatus, section information indicating how contents are each divided into sections, the integrated circuit comprising:

a recording unit operable to record a content into the storage unit;

a requesting unit operable to request the information supply apparatus to supply first section information corresponding to the recorded content by sending, to the information supply apparatus, (i) identification information for identifying the recorded content, and (ii) criterion information that indicates a level of performance of the home server apparatus in relation to generating section information;

a receiving unit operable to receive the first section information, from the information supply apparatus, when the first section information is supplied from the information supply apparatus as a result of the information supply apparatus judging that the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information sent by the requesting unit is lower than a level of performance in relation to generating section information stored in a storage unit of the information supply apparatus~~the first section information cannot be generated at the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information;~~

a generating unit operable to generate second section information corresponding to the recorded content, the second section information being generated when the information supply apparatus judges that the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information sent by the requesting unit is equal to or higher than the level of performance in relation to generating the section information stored in the storage unit of the

information supply apparatus, and when the first section information is not supplied from the information supply apparatus; and

a section information recording unit operable to record therein (i) the first section information corresponding to the recorded content, when the first section information is supplied from the information supply apparatus, and (ii) the second section information corresponding to the recorded content, when the first section information is not supplied from the information supply apparatus.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium having a program recorded thereon, the program for causing a computer to execute a process of recording, into a storage apparatus, contents and section information indicating how each of the contents is divided into sections, the program causing a computer to execute a method comprising:

recording a content into the storage apparatus;

requesting the information supply apparatus to supply first section information corresponding to the recorded content by sending, to the information supply apparatus, (i) identification information for identifying the recorded content, and (ii) criterion information that indicates a level of performance of the home server apparatus in relation to generating section information;

receiving the first section information, from the information supply apparatus, when the first section information is supplied from the information supply apparatus as a result of the information supply apparatus judging that the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information sent by the requesting is lower than a level of performance

~~in relation to generating the section information stored in the storage apparatus the first section information cannot be generated at the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information;~~

generating second section information corresponding to the recorded content, the second section information being generated when the information supply apparatus judges that the level of performance of the home server apparatus indicated by the criterion information sent by the requesting is equal to or higher than the level of performance in relation to generating the section information stored in the storage apparatus, and when the first section information is not supplied from the information supply apparatus; and

recording, into the storage apparatus, (i) the first section information corresponding to the recorded content, when the first section information is supplied from the information supply apparatus, and (ii) the second section information corresponding to the recorded content, when the first section information is not supplied from the information supply apparatus.

Claim 25 (New) A home server apparatus for recording a content, the home server apparatus comprising:

a generating unit operable to generate, with use of first characteristic amount data included in the recorded content, section information that indicates how contents are each divided into sections;

a requesting unit operable to request an information supply apparatus having a higher processing ability than the home server apparatus to supply section information of the recorded content that is generated using second characteristic amount data that is larger in an amount of

characteristics than the first characteristic amount data;

a storing unit operable to store the section information supplied by the information supply apparatus and the recorded content in association with each other when the section information is received from the information supply apparatus, and to store the section information generated by the home server apparatus and the recorded content in association with each other when the section information is not received from the information supply apparatus; and

a reproduction unit operable to reproduce the recorded content based on the section information stored in association with the recorded content.

Claim 26 (New) The home server apparatus of claim 25, wherein

after the requesting unit requests the information supply apparatus to supply the section information, (i) the information supply apparatus does not supply the section information to the home server apparatus when a level of performance of the home server apparatus is equal to or higher than a predetermined level of performance concerning the section information, and (ii) the information supply apparatus supplies the section information to the home server apparatus when the level of performance of the home server apparatus is lower than the predetermined level of performance concerning the section information.

Claim 27 (New) The home server apparatus of claim 26,

wherein the requesting unit transmits, to the information supply apparatus, criterion information that indicates a criterion that is used to judge whether or not the information supply

apparatus supplies the section information generated by the information supply apparatus to the home server apparatus, and

wherein the information supply apparatus judges, based on the criterion information, whether or not the level of performance of the home sever apparatus is lower than the predetermined level of performance concerning the section information.

Claim 28 (New) The home server apparatus of claim 27,

wherein the criterion information indicates the level of performance of the home server apparatus in relation to generating the section information, and

wherein the information supply apparatus judges that the level of performance of the home server apparatus is equal to or higher than the predetermined level of performance concerning the section information when the level of performance indicated by the criterion information is equal to or higher than a level of performance of the information supply apparatus, and judges that the level of performance of the home server apparatus is lower than the predetermined level of performance concerning the section information when the level of performance indicated by the criterion information is lower than the level of performance of the information supply apparatus.

Claim 29 (New) The home server apparatus of claim 25, wherein

the generating unit generates, during a recording of a content, the section information by using the first characteristic amount data included in the content that has already been recorded.

Claim 30 (New) The home server apparatus of claim 25,

wherein the first characteristic amount of data indicates an amount of characteristics that are detected by analyzing audio data of the recorded content, and

wherein the second characteristic amount data indicates an amount of characteristics that are detected by analyzing the audio data and image data of the recorded content.